

9/6/2011

ADDPC RFGA Grant Summary – Applications Recommended for Funding

An outside evaluation team made of five (5) professionals, met twice to discuss and evaluate proposals received under the grant solicitation, ADDPC FFY-10-1112-00-A /B /C. Evaluation Members evaluated each proposal based on three criteria: 1). Program Methodology based on the Scope of Work, 2). Organizational Capacity and Qualifications of Staff, and 3). Budget and Match requirements.

The Evaluation Committee were selected based on their expertise and familiarity in working with persons with developmental disabilities and their families, and must be capable of providing objective feedback on the content of the proposals.

Four RFGA's were released on June 6, 2011. Applications were due July 20, 2011;
Total available in RFGA's for funding: \$365,000;
Six applications were received and reviewed by the an outside evaluation committee;
Three proposals recommended for funding: \$232,232.

The following applications received are recommended for funding:

RFGA – A: Self Advocacy Planning and Support Project Southwest Institute for Families; Requesting \$100,000

SWI proposes program SPEAK – Supporting People in Employment. Advocacy, and Knowledge to accomplish two objectives 1). To provide high quality relevant training up to five existing self-advocacy groups that have a presence in the communities of Apache and Maricopa Counties with the training necessary to grow and serve increasing number of individuals within their respective areas; and 2). To develop a sustainable network of organizations linked and informed by YAKKIT.org, a social networking site. Project members from SWI will develop a four-phase, 10 course curriculum that will be offered to emerging, small to mid-size organizations that support self-advocacy activities and require support to strengthen and expand their effectiveness within their communities. The curriculum is designed to follow a continuum of phases that build upon each other with the ultimate goal of creating strong, independent, self-advocacy organizations.

Through SWI's social networking site YAKKIT.org, ongoing support will be facilitated in which self-advocacy groups have access to the 10-course webinars and an online forum in which participants may interact and share information to improve effectiveness. YAKKIT.org was created by SWI for people with disabilities, and is a low text site that relies primarily on audio and video to allow communication between its users,

regardless of their abilities. Community partners involved with SWI include NAU/IHD, HSC Educational Foundation, and Moore Consulting.

Requested funding will support SWI staff to carry out the proposed activities, enhancement of the YAKKIT website, travel to various communities, materials for training, and filming of program development.

In review of SWI's proposal, the Evaluation Team requested further information on the following areas: Information gathered per the needs assessment, chosen communities in Apache and Maricopa Counties, qualifications of project staff, role of NAU/IHD, and proposed training such as development, implementation and evaluation of the training activities. SWI responded to the questions and revised their original proposal. The Evaluation Team recommends funding of the revised proposed application by Southwest Institute for Families.

RFGA – B: Wellness Education and Prevention Project

Special Olympics Arizona; Requesting \$82,232

Requested funding by Special Olympics Arizona will support the Health Promotions curriculum that will be taught in 20 elementary, middle or high schools in 2012. Health Promotions is a 10-week curriculum developed to teach nutrition, healthy lifestyle and preventative measures for health to students with intellectual disabilities. The curriculum is interactive and covers areas such as Nutrition, Diet and Sports Nutrition, Exercise, Stress Management, Complications of Obesity, Diabetes, Behavior Management and Bone Health. Through a partnership with the School Nurse Organization and the Arizona Interscholastic Association, school educational health professionals (school nurses, athletic trainers, health instructors) will receive training from Special Olympics on the curriculum and effective presentation skills to their students.

The second proposed project is the Medical Screenings that take place in conjunction with Special Olympics state competitions in October and in April. Approximately 900 youth and young adults with intellectual disabilities are screened at these events in seven areas: General Fitness, Podiatry, Hearing, Vision, Dental Hygiene, Healthy Lifestyle Choices, and Sports Physicals. The Healthy Athletes Educator and Sports Assistant work together to coordinate the facilities, volunteers, and supplies needed for screening events. They are also instrumental in partnering with medical schools and association to provide volunteers for these events. Partnerships include: Midwestern University, A.T. Still University, Phoenix Children's Hospital, Pima Community College, Catholic Healthcare West, St. Joseph's Medical Center, AZ Early Hearing Detection & Intervention, the Ear Foundation of AZ, the AZ Dental Foundation, the AZ Optometric Association, and the ASU Pre-Optometry Club. Written referrals are provided when

necessary, and each referred person receives a post-screening follow-up to ensure that care has been obtained.

During two separate reviews, the Evaluation Committee made a final recommendation to fund only the Health Promotions curriculum in the schools and for the Medical Screenings. The costs associated with the Physical Activities would not be considered for funding. Therefore, Special Olympics revised their application significantly to address the Evaluation Committee's questions. The Evaluation Team recommends funding of the revised proposed application by Special Olympics Arizona.

RFGA – C: Self-Advocacy Development Project
Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona; Requesting \$50,000

Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona proposed a plan to develop policies and procedures, for an ongoing registry of educational training events (statewide, regional and nationally) that will be geared for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. To accomplish this objective, Pilot Parents will develop procedures for recruitment of individuals, how prospective individuals will be screened and selected, outline eligibility requirements, outline limitations on training per individuals on a calendar basis and develop a method for conducting and collecting follow-up evaluations and outcome reports that measure an increase capacity and/or knowledge in self-advocacy effectiveness. Pilot Parents will also arrange for and compensate approved individuals for registration, and ensure that all travel and accommodations is ADA compliant. The Evaluation Team recommended for Pilot Parents to address all of the Tasks listed in the Scope of Work in their Methodology and in their Implementation Plan. The Evaluation Team recommends funding of the revised proposed application by Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona.